GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2269
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2000
STORAGE FACILITIES FOR FRUITS VEGETABLES
SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the average total quantum of fruits and vegetables spoiled every year due to inadequate facilities of storage, transportation and marketing;

(b) the details of schemes chalked out by the Government to prevent spoiling of fruits and vegetables alongwith the targets fixed therefor during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to encourage fruits and vegetables processing industries so as to promote rural employment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a): As per the Report of the Sub-Working Group on Post Harvest Management, Marketing and Exports for the Ninth Plan, it is estimated that the losses vary between 8 to 37 per cent in various crops in different stages after harvest.

(b)to(d): The National Horticulture Board (NHB), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Agriculture, is implementing the following schemes for strengthening the post-harvest management infrastructure:

(i) Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/Expansion/Modernization of Cold Storages/Storages for Horticulture produce; and

(ii) Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production & Post Harvest Management of Horticultural Products.

The Department of Food Processing Industries (DFPI) also operates a number of Plan schemes for developing food processing industries including fruits & vegetables processing industries.

The schemes are demand based and no State-wise targets are fixed.